INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US98/02829

A. CLA	SSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
IPC(6) :C12N 5/00, 1/14, 1/16, 1/20			
US CL: 435/404, 431, 253.6, 255.21, 256.8 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC			
B. FIELDS SEARCHED			
***	ocumentation searched (classification system follower	ad by alassification symbols)	
	435/404, 431, 253.6, 255.21, 256.8	od by classification symbols)	
Documenta	tion searched other than minimum documentation to th	e extent that such documents are included	in the fields searched
Electronic of APS, STN	lata base consulted during the international search (na	ame of data base and, where practicable	, search terms used)
C. DOC	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages		Relevant to claim No.
X 	US 5,580,856 A (PRESTRELSKI ET AL) 03 December 1996, see entire document. US 4,615,978 A (SANDINE et al) 07 October 1986, see entire document.		6-8, 40, 43
Y			1-5, 9-39, 41, 42, 44-91
X Y			5-8, 17, 28, 31, 40, 43, 48
			1-4, 9-16, 18-27, 29, 30, 32-39, 41, 42, 44-47, 49-91
	er documents are listed in the continuation of Box C	. See patent family annex.	
 Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance 		"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention	
"E" ear	lier document published on or after the international filing date cument which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	
document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	
"P" doc the	cument published prior to the international filing date but later than priority date claimed	"&" document member of the same patent family	
Date of the actual completion of the international search D		Date of mailing of the international search report	
09 MAY 1998		1 9 JUN 1998	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT		Authorized officer	
Washington, D.C. 20231		CHRISTOPHER TATE	
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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. \mathbf{X} US 4,621,058 A (REDDY) 04 November 1986, see entire 1-4, 17, 27, 31, document. 42, 48 Y 5-16, 18-26, 28-30, 32-41, 43-47, 49-91 X US 4,999,301 A (BRYAN-JONES) 12 March 1991, especially 1-4, 17, 27, 31, column 3, lines 12-25. 42, 48, 73 Y 5-16, 18-26, 28-30, 32-41, 43-47, 49-72, 74-91 X US 4,544,637 A (KEGGINS ET AL) 01 October 1985, see entire 1-4, 17, 27, 31, document. 42, 48 Y 5-16, 18-26, 28-30, 32-41, 43-47, 49-91 Database WIPDS on STN, Abstract No. 85-005539, \mathbf{X} 5-7, 17, 28, 40, MIKHALEVIC et al., 'Acidophilic preparations manufacture -48, 73 involves adding powdered beet and molasses to nutrient medium as protecting agent.', abstract, SU 1,097,253 15 June 1984, see 1-4, 8-16, 18-27, abstract. 29-39, 41-47, 49-72, 74-91 US 4,071,412 A (EISENBERG ET AL) 31 January 1978, see Y 56-69 entire document.